

in this issue

LSTA funds to support delivery, catalogs, talking books

Family Reading Night 2010

Library Training Grants awarded

ILA Annual Conference

Exhibit wins History Channel award



A Newsletter from the Illinois State Library — Jesse White, Secretary of State & State Librarian

LSTA funds to support delivery, catalogs, talking books

Each year, the Illinois State Library receives federal Library Services and Technology Act funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. For many years the State Library used LSTA funds to administer a popular competitive grant program for different types of libraries and library systems. The grants were designed to promote creativity and help libraries address specific local needs.

In the summer of 2009, after the General Assembly made significant cuts to per capita grant programs, Secretary of State Jesse White shuttered the competitive LSTA grant program for FY10 and instead used LSTA funds to restore some of the money cut by lawmakers. Because the state's fiscal problems continue, the State Library will direct FY11 LSTA funding toward fundamental programs such as delivery and critical resource sharing services instead of the competitive grant program.

Other LSTA funds have been used to provide statewide continuing education programs to the library community. These programs include Synergy, the Illinois Library Leadership Initiative; the

Small Public Library Management Institute; the Institute for School and Public Librarians; and the On the Front Lines Conference. LSTA money also has been used to provide scholarships to students pursuing master's degrees in library science.

The State Library has made the difficult decision to also put its traditional continuing education programs and scholarships on hold during FY11, excluding programs already underway and scholarships already announced. One State Library program, ILEAD U, is operated with a three-year Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian competitive award, and will continue through 2012.

Secretary of State Jesse White and State Library staff believe that funding must be available foremost throughout FY11 to support delivery, the catalogs and the Talking Book Centers. Patrons have made it clear that prompt delivery of library materials is their paramount concern. And if the catalogs cease functioning, there will be no materials to deliver. Secretary White is focused on ensuring that resource sharing is supported for the duration of this fiscal crisis and beyond.



Project Next Generation Picnic

The Jesse White Tumblers entertained nearly 200 participants at the annual Project Next Generation pre-Illinois State Fair picnic at the State Library in August.

See page 2 for more photos of the State Library at the State Fair.

September/October
2010

ISL at the Illinois State Fair



Students and mentors from the Harrisburg Project Next Generation program joined Secretary White at his pre-State Fair picnic at the State Library in August. Project Next Generation is Secretary White's highly successful mentoring program administered through Illinois public libraries.

The State Library had a presence at the 10-day fair with a booth inside the Secretary of State tent and a Talking Book and Braille Service booth inside the Senior Building. Secretary White visited both areas and met with employees and visitors. With White are ISL employees Robert Jones, Rosalie Pecoraro (center) and Deborah Hurley of the TBBS.



Library Training Grants awarded

Fifteen future librarians have been awarded scholarships of \$7,500 each from Secretary of State Jesse White to help pay for the cost of obtaining their Master of Library and Information Science degrees. The Illinois Library and Information Science Training Grant Program, administered by the Illinois State Library, provides grants each year to college graduates who possess exceptional academic achievement and an interest in becoming librarians. More than 500 students have received scholarships since the program was implemented. Scholarships may be used toward full- or part-time studies at an American Library Association-accredited graduate library school. Grant recipients must to work the equivalent of two full years in the Illinois library community within the first three years after graduation. As a result, these grants benefit both the student recipients and the state's library community.

"The state of Illinois is a national leader in developing libraries and librarians, and this grant program provides outstanding graduate students with some of the financial resources they need to obtain their master's degrees," said Secretary White. "I am proud to congratulate these talented future librarians."

Eight students are attending the U of I-Champaign/Urbana:

Irene M. Ciciora, Oak Lawn

Brigitta K. Denning, Western Springs

Dana M. Fine, Princeton

Maria V. Ford, Tonica

Devin C. Higgins, Chicago

Jamie R. Jones, Henry

Jennifer Matters, Kankakee

Stephanie L. Miller, Chicago

Two students are attending Dominican University in River Forest:

Mosi Kamau, Chicago

Vadim Seyfer, Glenview

Five students are attending library schools outside of Illinois:

Adam J. Carey, Naperville — University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Blaine C. Cornelius, Belvidere — University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Violet A. Jaffe, Arlington Heights — University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa

Micah F. Rademacher, Chicago — University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Nikeda F. Webb, Bourbonnais — University of Wisconsin-Madison

Per Capita Grant Applications due October 15

The FY2011 Illinois Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grant Application is now available at www.cyberdriveillinois.com (click Departments, State Library). Grant applications must be **legibly postmarked on or before October 15, 2010**, or hand delivered to the State Library by 4:30 p.m. on October 15.

Libraries count on per capita grants for expenses such as paying for materials, personnel, equipment, electronic access, telecommunications and technology. Equalization Aid Grants help public libraries that have a low library tax base by ensuring a minimum level of funding for library services. For more information, please contact Mary Downing at mdowning@ilsos.net or Jeanne Urbanek at jurbanek@ilsos.net.

Letters About Literature

Deadline December 10

Secretary of State Jesse White is urging students in grades 4-12 to enter the 2011 Letters About Literature contest, a national reading and writing competition sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the Illinois Center for the Book in partnership with Target.

“Every year students across the nation write letters to authors, living or deceased, describing how a book has positively impacted their lives,” said Secretary White. “Anyone who has read these letters can see how literature inspires and touches the lives of our young people. Students truly enjoy this contest, and I hope thousands of Illinois students will participate this year.”

There are three levels of participation: Level I — grades 4-6; Level II — grades 7-8; and Level III — grades 9-12. Each participating state will select a winning letter for each competition level. The three Illinois winners will receive a \$50 Target gift card, a plaque and a U.S. savings bond from the Illinois Center for the Book. They also will get to read their letters at a reception hosted by Secretary White.

Winners of the Illinois contest will advance to the national competition, where two national winners and four national honorable mentions will be selected for each competition level. The six national winners each will receive a \$500 Target gift card and a \$10,000 LAL Reading Promotion Grant in their name for their community or school library. The 12 honorable mentions each will receive a \$100 Target gift card, and a \$1,000 LAL Reading Promotion Grant in their name for their community or school library.

The deadline to enter the competition is Dec. 10, 2010. State winners will be announced in April 2011. For more information, please contact Bonnie Matheis at 217-558-2065 or bmatheis@ilsos.net, or visit <http://illinoiscenterforthebook.org>.

Target sponsors Letters About Literature as part of its national reading initiative, “Ready. Sit. Read!”, aimed at fostering a love of reading among children at an early age. Since opening its first store in 1962, Target has partnered with non-profit organizations, guests and team members to help meet community needs.

ILA Conference — September 28-30

The annual Illinois Library Association Annual Conference will be held September 28-30 at Navy Pier in Chicago. Several State Library staff members have prominent roles in the conference.

- Karen Egan of the Library Development Group is serving as conference co-chair.
- **Tuesday, Sept. 28, 9-10:30 a.m.:** ISL Network Consultant Gwen Harrison will host a discussion about the ILEAD U initiative.
- **Tuesday, Sept. 28, 6-8 p.m.:** Coordinator Bonnie Matheis and the Illinois Center for the Book are sponsoring acclaimed central Illinois author Taylor Pensoneau at the Illinois Authors dinner.
- **Wednesday Sept. 29, 3-4:30 p.m.:** ISL Diversity Program Manager Vandella Brown will moderate the annual DiversiTEA. Vandella also has been named winner of the ILA’s Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial/Demco Award.
- **Wednesday, Sept. 29, 4-5 p.m.:** ISL Reference Outreach Coordinator Debra Aggertt will moderate a discussion about Illinois LegalAid Online.
- **Thursday, Sept. 30, 3 p.m.:** Secretary of State Jesse White is tentatively scheduled to meet with conference participants.

Exhibit wins History Channel award

The History Channel has announced that a display developed in observation of Women’s History Month last March by the State Library, the Illinois State Archives and the Secretary of State Communications Department has received second place in a national contest.

The multi-panel exhibit titled “Writing Women Back into History” was displayed in the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago. Images on the panels were taken from the collections of the State Archives and the Illinois Digital Archives (IDA). Individual panels highlighted women in Illinois history who made contributions to law and government, the workforce, the military dating back to the Civil War, education, health care, and aviation and the sciences.

The display was so popular it was exhibited again in May in the atrium of the Illinois State Library, Gwendolyn Brooks Building, in conjunction with the History Channel’s Library Outreach program and the 12-hour series, “America: The Story of Us.” The display received second place in a national contest run in conjunction with the series.

Congratulations to all those who had a hand in creating the display!

READ for a lifetime

Another school year is underway, which means high school students can sign up for the State Library's highly acclaimed and hugely popular Read for a Lifetime program. In its 13th year, Read for a Lifetime was the first statewide reading program to target high school students. The primary goal of the program is to promote the enjoyment of reading by encouraging students to read both classic and contemporary literature, and rewarding them for their efforts.

Participating high school students must read at least four titles from the booklist. Students completing the requirement by the end of the school year will receive a Certificate of Achievement from Secretary of State Jesse White. To enroll your school or public library in Read for a Lifetime, please contact Jeanne Urbanek at jurbanek@ilsos.net. Everything you need to participate is available at www.cyberdriveillinois.com (click Departments, Library, What's New).

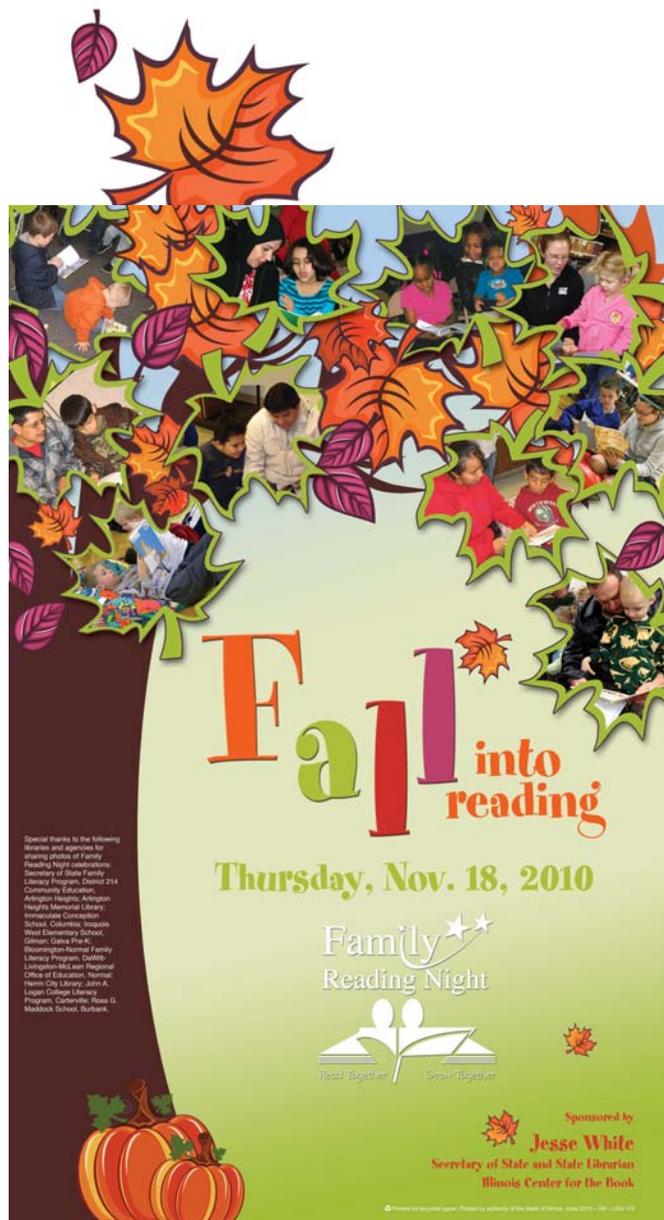
SAVE THE DATE

September 28-30
ILA Annual Conference
Navy Pier, Chicago

October 7-8
Reaching Forward South Conference
Springfield

October 26-28
Synergy Library Leadership Initiative
Lisle

The State Library will be closed:
October 11, Columbus Day
November 2, General Election Day



Special thanks to the following libraries and agencies for sharing photos of Family Reading Night celebrations:
Secretary of State Family Reading Program, District 214 Community Education, Arlington Heights Arlington Heights Memorial Library, Evanston Children's Center, Scher, Columbus, Indiana West Elementary School, Glenview, Clark Park, IL, Washington Normal Family Library Program, Oakton, Loudoun County, Virginia, Heron City Library, John A. Logan College Library Program, Carleville, Ross G. Mackbook School, Barbara.

Fall into reading

Thursday, Nov. 18, 2010

Family Reading Night

Read Together Grow Together

Sponsored by
Jesse White
Secretary of State and State Librarian
Illinois Center for the Book



Insight
Jesse White, Secretary of State & State Librarian
Illinois State Library, Gwendolyn Brooks Building
300 S. Second St.
Springfield, IL 62701-1796
Produced by the Secretary of State Communications
Department.

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois • September 2010